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Abstract:

A partial extract containing the volatile in steam components and further lipophilic components of medical plants and/or spice plants or parts thereof, which may be charged in fresh or dried state, is obtained by a) mixing said plants or parts thereof with at least one organic solvent and extracting in usual manner, then either b) 1) adding to this extraction mixture at least one drying agent, in order to take away the water from the organic phase, and then separating the dried organic phase from the vegetable solid matter and from the drying agent, or b) 2) separating the vegetable solid matter from the organic phase, then adding to this organic phase at least one drying agent, in order to take away the water, and then separating the dried organic phase from the drying agent, and c) distilling the organic solvent(s), and recovering in this way a lipophilic concentrate.

Exemplary Claim:

1. A process for preparing a partial extract of at least one of medical plants and spice plants, or parts thereof, containing both volatile-in-steam lipophilic components and non-volatile-in-steam lipophilic components thereof, said process comprising (i) mixing a plant or parts thereof with at least one organic solvent and extracting to form an extraction mixture of an organic phase containing volatile-in-steam lipophilic components and other lipophilic components of the plant, and a vegetable solid matter phase; (ii) adding a drying agent to remove water from the organic phase; (iii) separating a dried organic phase from the drying agent; and (iv) distilling the organic phase and recovering a lipophilic concentrate containing both volatile-in-steam lipophilic components and non-volatile-in-steam lipophilic components of the plant or parts thereof.

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